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## Gasmaking plant

Woodall-Duckham Construction Co. Ltd. are to build at Killingholme for the East Midlands Gas Board the first *Kontalyst* high-pressure steam reforming plant for naphtha in Great Britain. The installation will comprise two streams having a combined daily output of 50 million cu.ft. of 500 BTU/s.cu.ft. town gas at a pressure of 350 p.s.i.g. and is to be commissioned in the late summer of 1967.

The *Kontalyst* process converts naphtha and steam in a catalyst-filled tubular reformer directly to high CV gas which, after the normal processes of gas treatment, is suitable for distribution as town gas. It is the result of research and development by Heinrich Koppers GmbH. of Essen, a company with which Woodall-Duckham have had strong links for almost half a century.

The process was first applied commercially at low pressure to make continental town gas having calorific values in the range 400 to 440 BTU/s.cu.ft. Several such installations are in successful operation. Further devel-

opment work has brought *Kontalyst* to the stage where it is now available for operation under the conditions prevailing in the British gas industry. A 12 million cu.ft./day single stream plant converting high boiling high sulphur naphtha feedstock to a high BTU town gas will be commissioned at Frankfurt this winter.

Advantages claimed by the *Kontalyst* process are: its ability to reform almost any straight run naphtha feedstock without limitation on final boiling point and even relatively high aromatics content; the use of a specially developed regenerative desulphurisation system, the *Komasulf*; the production directly from the reformer of a stable gas free from condensibles and hydrocarbons other than methane at calorific values up to 570 BTU/s.cu.ft.; low reaction temperatures, low steam demand and, where required, modest operating pressure.

## HEVAC exhibition

Fuel economy is the major theme of the International Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Exhibition

(HEVAC) at Olympia, London, to be opened by Lord Robens, chairman of the National Coal Board, on April 14, 1966.

The Exhibition embraces refrigeration equipment, process heating, air handling and treatment, dust and fume extraction and all forms of domestic and industrial heating, cooling and ventilation. It deals with the industry in depth, and includes methods of keeping air passengers comfortable, maintaining the health of factory workers and keeping the housewife free of kitchen fumes. Exhibits deal with the problem of maintaining a sterile atmosphere in hospital operating theatres.

The organisers estimate that more than 10% of the equipment shown will be from overseas. One of the largest displays is that of the Government of Ontario who will demonstrate the equipment developed in their territory.

In addition to the major firms from the industry the Coal Utilisation Council, the Electrical Development Association, the Gas Council and the National Coal Board are exhibiting.